

## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release: Nov. 6, 2007

For More Information, Contact:
Michelle Walker, Quitline Coordinator
Division of Tobacco Prevention and Control
North Dakota Department of Health
Phone: 701.328.2315

E-mail: mlwalker@nd.gov

## Free Nicotine Replacement Products Offered to North Dakota Tobacco Quitline Callers

BISMARCK, N.D. – As an incentive for smokers and spit-tobacco users to quit using tobacco, the North Dakota Tobacco Quitline is offering free nicotine replacement products to anyone who enrolls in Quitline counseling and is uninsured or does not have cessation coverage through their health plan. Tobacco users who make the commitment to quit will visit with a cessation counselor and, after evaluation, will be offered a free 28-day supply of nicotine patches or nicotine gum.

"Telephone counseling through the Quitline is always free to North Dakota residents, and it can be arranged at convenient times for the caller," said Michelle Walker, North Dakota Tobacco Quitline coordinator for the North Dakota Department of Health. "Now we're also offering free nicotine patches or nicotine gum to help tobacco users up the odds of a successful quit attempt. If you use tobacco and want to quit, the Quitline is really too good a deal to pass up."

The announcement of the free nicotine replacement products comes right before the Great American Smokeout, November 15. The Great American Smokeout, which is in its 31<sup>st</sup> year, is a nationwide event held on the third Thursday of November each year to encourage smokers to quit.

"The Great American Smokeout is a day dedicated to encouraging tobacco users to make a healthy change in their lives by quitting tobacco use," Walker said. "November 15 would certainly be a great day for tobacco users to call the Quitline so we can help them make that healthy change – with one-on-one counseling and support and free nicotine replacement products."

For more information about quitting tobacco, call the Quitline toll-free at 866.388.7848. Free products are available only while supplies last.

-- 30 --

Please note: To access archived news releases and other information, visit the North Dakota Department of Health Press Room at www.nddohpressroom.gov.

600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 301, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0200 Phone: 701.328.2372 Fax: 701.328.4727 E-mail: health@nd.gov